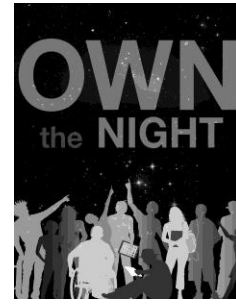


Keys to a successful teen summer reading program

- Differentiate teen program
- Keep it flexible and fun
- Let the teens lead
- Identify community partners
- Focus on sharing reading recommendations & building relationship with the library
- Start small, let it grow



Working from the Theme

There are so many possibilities in any summer reading theme. It's helpful to work with teens to further define the theme for your library.



Define the content areas that interest your teens, fit well with your community and fall within the library's mission.



Make connections between the theme & interests with booklists, passive programs and events.



Look for partners and try to pool resources and expertise.



Booklists

dystopian: **darkness falls, girls on fire**

horror: **creatures of the night, dating a demon, boarding schools from hell**

hopeful books: **after the darkness**

historical fiction: **witch hunts, inquisition, pestilence and other past nastiness**

realistic fiction & social issues: **take back the night**

free tools: goodreads, shelfari, facebook, pinterest

paid tools: bookletters, animoto

Passive Programs & Crafts

Shelf talkers or bookmarks to recommend reads, dream journals/writing prompts, creepy photography challenge, zombie peg dolls, origami stars, voting for favorite creatures (werewolves vs. vampires) or book series (Harry Potter vs. Percy Jackson), sugar skulls

Technology Learning Tools

Figment online community for teen writers <http://50.19.127.74/>

That's Not Cool seeks to arm young people with the tools they need to combat cyberbullying or other inappropriate online behavior www.thatsnotcool.com

Hackasaurus X-Ray goggles take a tour around the Internet with x-ray vision to show how every page was put together. <http://hackasaurus.org/en-US/goggles/>

HTMLpad a quick and easy tool for creating your first page in HTML. <http://htmlpad.org/>

Scratch MIT's gift to those who would develop their own games using a simplified programming tool <http://scratch.mit.edu/>

Animoto simple & quick video mixer www.animoto.com

Instagram set up photobooth-style station www.instagram.com

Stiktu app that allows you to customize photos and add elements. <http://www.stiktu.com/>

BuildAR app that opens the door to augmented reality – create a layer that sits on top of the real world and provides information through mobile devices <https://buildar.com/>

Special Event Ideas

- AfterHours at the library – can use any theme or point of interest, the time of the program is the link to the theme. Examples: DJ mixing workshop, improv theater, karaoke, gaming.
- Night of the Living Dead costume party with special make-up artists from local theater
- Zombie walk
- Murder Mystery
- Laser tag, sardines game
- Cosplay – everyone dresses up to represent a particular book world
- Gameshow night - Silent Library, Minute to Win It
- Stargazing/meteor shower gathering
- Ghost stories
- Dream interpretation
- Creepy Food top chef competition
- Partner with local domestic violence center to screen a documentary that focuses on sexual assault or cyberbullying.

Prizes - grand prizes, reading goal recognition, drawings, or door prizes?

- Solicit donations of small gift cards from local businesses (also solicit snacks for events)
- Books in good condition, or ARCs
- Tickets to special end-of-summer event
- T-shirts for teen volunteers

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